

America First BULLETIN

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PEACE

For the dark and tragic performance which is now going on in America there is but one word—Betrayal.

President Woodrow Wilson said as he spoke to Congress asking a declaration of war: "It is a dreadful thing to lead this great, peaceful nation into war." Who can doubt that? But then American ships had been attacked and sunk on the high seas and further threats had been made against us. The people were whole-heartedly for war. The nation was behind the President clamoring for war.

Nation Against War

But this is not so today. The nation is overwhelmingly against war. It remembers with bitterness the disillusionments of the last war. It was against war a month ago. It is against war more today as it finds itself teaming up with bloody Russia in the name of democracy. And beyond all this no attack has been made on us anywhere or in any manner by any nation in the world.

Yet week after week the war makers tell us the danger is getting greater, the war is coming closer and closer. They say we cannot delay much longer, the peril is at our door. You would suppose from this that Hitler had his legions mobilized on our frontier; that he was planning an attack on our cities; that we must hurry in hot haste to save our very lives.

Deliberate Lie

Yet every man knows this is not true. It is a plain, a deliberate and a shocking lie. No one is hurrying us into war but ourselves.

In Washington are men who have sworn to obey our laws and to guard our lives and liberties. Instead they are plotting day after day how they can inch us out first one little bit in this direction and then in that, in the hope that presently the die will be cast. It is their duty to protect us from war, not to push us into it.

They are in daily conference and collaboration with foreign refugees who seem to exercise

(Continued on page 2)

Join the America First Committee

If you are an American citizen, opposed to Nazism, Fascism and Communism, you can help fight war by joining the America First Committee. Contribute to our work. Distribute our literature. Volunteer your services.

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A.F.C. Demands Removal Of Knox Chapter Chairmen Rap His War-Making Acts

Removal of Frank Knox from his post as Secretary of the Navy because he violated his oath to uphold the Constitution by urging that the Navy intervene in the European war, was called for this week by chapter chairmen of the America First Committee from all sections of the country.

The chairmen, attending a conference at the committee's Chicago headquarters, charged that Knox is not a fit person to hold such a high office. They accused him of advocating a war which, without Congressional consent, would be in effect a violation of the Constitution.

Forshaw Submits Resolution

Their resolution, introduced by Joseph Forshaw, head of the St. Louis chapter, read as follows:

"Whereas, the Constitution of the United States provides that Congress has the sole power to declare war; and

"Whereas, the Secretary of the Navy, in public utterances, has advocated that the American Navy intervene in the present war now; and

"Whereas, use of the American Navy would constitute actual and open war without consent of Congress; and

Cite Oath Of Office

"Whereas by his solemn oath of office, the Secretary of the Navy has sworn to uphold the Constitution of the United States,

"Now, therefore, be it resolved, that we, the representatives of Chapters of the America First Committee from San Diego, Cal., to Boston, Mass., do condemn and repudiate the unauthorized utterances and conduct of the Secretary of the Navy, and by reason of his outright advocacy of undeclared war, in defense of the Constitution, we do declare it to be the sense of this group that the Secretary of the Navy is no longer a fit person to hold his present high office and should be removed from that office."

Overwhelming Majorities Back Demand To Stay Out Of War

Write Now—Help Congress Force Back The War-Makers

The War Bund has climbed out of its hole and taken off its false whiskers. It stands revealed and unashamed, no longer lying about its pretenses of "aiding." It is asking for a declaration of war and it hopes that the Iceland episode will be the beginning of shooting. And now the President himself has asked (1) that the selectees drafted for a year be kept over indefinitely and (2) that he be given power by Congress to send them out of the Western Hemisphere. Remember the only places out of the Western Hemisphere are Europe, Asia and Africa. This demand comes from the President himself through the Chief of Staff of the Army.

And now all your long work has borne fruit. Your letters, your telegrams, your meetings, your contributions—all now yield their dividend. For Congress has risen in arms against these demands. The leaders have told the President flatly that Congress will not vote to send these boys out of this hemisphere. They have told him also that it will oppose extension of the year of service.

The President has backed down on sending them to Europe, Asia, Africa. But he is demanding that Congress grant extension of the year's service. This is merely a stratagem. He will get the year's extension first. Then will come the demand again for the A.E.F. to Europe, China, Libya.

America is at the stopping place now. No A.E.F. now or hereafter. And as for the boys who went into the draft under the promise of a year's service—are we to do a Hitler on them and break faith? Are promises good nowhere—neither in Germany, Russia, Italy nor the United States?

WRITE AT ONCE. Write to your Senators and your Representatives. Write both Senators. Let New Yorkers in particular write Senator James M. Mead, who has been mousing his way through this crisis, and to Senator Robert Wagner. Tell them you expect them to act as the Senators of the people of New York and not of the people of Greece or Russia or Britain. Write the President. Make this your duty for this week. A letter by you and by every member of the family to the President, both Senators and your Congressman.

Taft Urges Congress To Curb War Making Acts Of President

Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio charged this week that the Administration is following a deliberate course involving the country in war "without submitting the question to the people, or the people's representatives, because of the fear that the people will not approve."

Speaking in the Senate, Mr. Taft called for vigorous public protests over President Roosevelt's action in occupying Iceland. This step was called intervention in a war between two other nations and a clear step toward American involvement—a step which, Mr. Taft said, the President was not empowered to make by the Constitution.

Following is the text of Mr. Taft's address:

On Monday, the President of the United States notified the Senate that forces of the United States Navy had already arrived in Iceland in order to supplement, and eventually to replace, the British forces now stationed there. This action was taken in accordance with an understanding reached by the President with the Prime Minister of Iceland, frankly inspired however, according to the Prime Minister, by the British Minister to Iceland, who explained to him that British forces in Iceland were required elsewhere, and suggested that he apply to the United States for forces.

The Prime Minister stressed the fact that the United States forces must be strong enough to meet every eventuality; and the

Two State-Wide Surveys Prove Voters Ask Peace As Objective of U.S.

Final results of two comprehensive state-wide polls gave conclusive evidence this week that the American people by overwhelming majorities, greater than have ever been given any candidate for the Presidency, oppose this country's involvement in the European war.

In New York, the Daily News announced that its survey of voters in that state resulted in a 7 to 3 ratio in opposition to U.S. participation in war. An even more convincing return was tabulated in Illinois, where a Chicago Tribune survey revealed that four of every five voters are set against involvement.

Scientific Basis

These surveys—conducted on a scientific, blanketing basis—gave the lie to Washington officials seeking to pull the country into the war on claims of public support for their actions. Coming at a time when new war-making acts were before Congress for approval, they added powerful strength to public demands that the Senate and House reassert their Constitutional rights and turn back any further steps toward intervention.

The Daily News and Chicago Tribune polls were conducted in a way that could leave no doubt as to their accuracy. Post-cards were sent to one out of every ten voters in each state, New York and Illinois, and the voters were asked to answer simply "yes" or "no" to the question: "Shall the United States enter the war to help Britain defeat Hitler?"

A total of 696,000 ballots were mailed in New York, and 257,484 in Illinois. The New York poll covered the entire state, the Illinois poll covered all of Chicago, the thirty county town-

(Continued on page 2)

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New York City

October 25, 1941

Principles Of America First Committee

1. Our first duty is to keep America out of foreign wars. Our entry would only destroy democracy, not save it.
2. We must build a defense, for our own shores, so strong that no foreign power or combination of powers can invade our country, by sea, air or land.
3. Not by acts of war abroad but by preserving and extending democracy at home can we aid democracy and freedom in other lands.
4. In 1917 we sent our American ships into the war zone, and this led us to war. In 1941 we must keep our naval convoys and merchant vessels on this side of the Atlantic.
5. Humanitarian aid is the duty of a strong, free country at peace. With proper safeguard for the distribution of supplies, we should feed and clothe the suffering and needy people of the occupied countries.
6. We advocate an official advisory vote by the people of the United States on the question of war or peace, so that when Congress decides this question, as the Constitution provides, it may know the opinion of the people on this gravest of all issues.

Bismarck And Roosevelt

Those who have read German history will recall the story of the famous Ems dispatch.

Bismarck, Prussian Chancellor, in 1870 decided he was ready to make war on France. But he wanted France to start the war—to shoot first. One day Bismarck received a dispatch from the Prussian King, who was at Ems. It merely told the Chancellor that the King had put off a demand of the French Ambassador by saying he would give him an answer through an aide-de-camp.

Bismarck saw in this his chance. He altered the dispatch so that it seemed to say that the King had refused to have any further communication with the French government. He did not alter any words. He did not add any. He merely left out some.

He knew that when that dispatch appeared in the French newspapers the people would be infuriated at the Prussian King's apparent dismissal of France's Ambassador. He felt sure that Napoleon III would start shooting. He did. And Bismarck had his war.

And now for America, 1941. On September 11 the President made a speech giving his reason for starting his famous—and fatal—Atlantic Patrol. An American destroyer had been attacked by a German U-boat. He said—mark his words:

"My Fellow Americans: The Navy Department of the United States has reported to me that on the morning of September 4 the United States Destroyer Greer, proceeding in full daylight toward Iceland, had reached a point southeast of Greenland. She was carrying American mail to Iceland. She was flying the American flag. Her identity as an American ship was unmistakable. She was then and there attacked by a submarine. Germany admits that it was a submarine."

There is the picture—our destroyer proceeding peacefully, carrying the mail and supplies to our troops in Iceland, when out of the sea rises the sub-monster and fires a torpedo at the Greer. Every word of that is true. It is what was left out that makes it a notable utterance.

The people might never have learned what was left out but for a resolution offered in the Senate demanding that the Naval Affairs Committee obtain the facts from the Navy Department. As a result Admiral Stark, Commander of the Navy, sent to Senator David I. Walsh, chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee, an account of what actually happened.

That communication supplied the facts which the President left out. Here is Admiral Stark's revelation as printed in an Associated Press dispatch, October 15:

"At 8:40 a.m. a British plane notified the Greer that a submarine was submerged ten miles ahead directly on the course the destroyer was following.

"The Greer immediately crowded on speed and zig-zagged her way to the location reported. At 9:20, five minutes after reaching the vicinity, the destroyer's underwater sound detection equipment picked up the propeller

beat of the submerged U-boat and started to trail it, broadcasting the submarine's position.

"This," said Admiral Stark, "was in accordance with her orders, that is, to give out information, but not to attack."

"No further assistance, meanwhile, came from the patrol plane. However, at 10:32 the plane dropped four depth charges which missed their mark on the U-boat, and twenty minutes later withdrew from the hunt.

"The Greer clung to the trail of its quarry for 3 hours and 28 minutes, always maneuvering to keep the U-boat ahead of it.

"Then at 12:40 p.m. the submarine changed course and closed on the Greer.

"At 12:48 an air bubble broke the surface of the sea not far from the Greer—a sign that a torpedo had been fired. A minute later the feathered wake of its track was sighted, but the aim was bad and the torpedo passed 100 yards astern of the destroyer.

"At 12:56 the Greer counter-attacked."

The destroyer was not moving on its own business to Iceland. It was hunting down the German submarine, crowding it, broadcasting its location to British bombers, holding it in position while a British plane poured depth bombs at it, and pursuing it for over three hours and twenty minutes.

Why did the President leave out these details? Why did Bismarck leave out similar details in the Ems dispatch? We know why Bismarck changed that dispatch. He wanted to inflame the French people to make war on Germany. Did President Roosevelt change the story of the Greer to inflame the American people to make war on that same Germany?

Now another American destroyer has been torpedoed. What was it doing when it was struck? We know that the President ordered all American war vessels to shoot first when they sighted a submarine. Was the Kearny shooting? Was it hunting down a U-boat? Are we to suppose that American war vessels can sail the seas with orders to shoot on sight the war vessels of a nation with which we are not at war and that German war vessels will not shoot first if they can get the drop?

All Washington has known for many months that the President was trying to create an incident—an incident with which he could inflame the minds of the American people. Churchill in the last war said that the quickest way to get the Americans in was to get some American blood spilled in Europe. Now Mr. Churchill has his wish.

Eleven young Americans have had their blood spilled into the Atlantic. The President has his incident. He has succeeded in getting some Americans killed. Now he feels he is beautifully placed to get the blood of another million or two shed.

As Congressman Cox, interventionist, of Georgia, puts it so eloquently: "This is what we have been waiting for."

A Week's Quotes

REPRESENTATIVE U. S. GUYER of Kansas: "The greatest calamity that could possibly be inflicted upon our country is involvement in this war. We are unprepared and bowing beneath the greatest debt that our Government has ever known. Our experience in the last war should teach us that it is our destiny to keep out of European, African and Asiatic wars and strictly attend to our own business while at the same time maintaining an invulnerable defense. The whole nation can unite on that program and in its execution the people of this country will solidly unite."

REPRESENTATIVE ANTON J. JOHNSON of Illinois: "American participation in the war on the side of England, Russia and China would be a terrible mistake, one that might easily spell the doom of this republican form of government. Genuine neutrality would prove to the world the merits of our form of government and leave us at the end of the present conflict the most powerful nation on earth."

SENATOR BURTON K. WHEELER of Montana: "The men surrounding the President apparently want a declaration of war. But they are afraid to come out in the open and ask for it. Their methods are deceitful and dishonest, and they owe it to the American people and the British to come out in the open and be above board about it."

GEORGE E. SOKOLSKY: "When a group of Americans takes its orders from a foreigner, then what it says, right or wrong, represents treachery to America. The Communists and their fellow-travelers have, since September, 1939, in the most unmistakable manner proved that their loyalty is not to America, that their interests are not American, that their concern is not the welfare of the American people. They have proved by their own conduct that they are bossed by Joe Stalin and that their love is for Soviet Russia."

One Of The Freedoms In America



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America First Rally

Sponsored by N. Y. Chapter, America First Committee

at

Madison Square Garden

New York City

Thursday, October 30, 1941

Speakers:

BURTON K. WHEELER

Senior U. S. Senator from Montana

CHARLES A. LINDBERGH

JOHN CUDAHY

Former United States Ambassador to Belgium

Chairman:

JOHN T. FLYNN

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MRS. BENNETT CHAMP CLARK

Wife of the Senior U. S. Senator from Missouri

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Pastor, Christ Methodist Church, Glendale, L. I.

Group singing directed by Robert Crawford—Music by Ebens' Band

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On October 30, 1940, at Boston, President Roosevelt made a sacred pledge to the voters of America. He said:
"And while I am talking to you, fathers and mothers, I give you one more assurance. I have said this before, but
I shall say it AGAIN and AGAIN, and AGAIN, your boys are not going to be sent into any foreign wars. They are going
into training to form a force so strong that, by its very existence, it will keep the threat of war far away from our
shores. Yes, the purpose of our defense is defense."

One year later, on October 30, 1941, the people of New York meet at Madison Square Garden to commemorate
that sacred promise and to demand that IT MUST BE KEPT.

Neutrality Act Barrier To War

Cudahy, Flynn Testify At Senate Hearings

WASHINGTON.—The grave dangers of war involved in the change of the Neutrality Act to permit the arming of American ships emphasized last week by witnesses testifying before the secret hearings of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

John Cudahy, former Ambassador to Belgium, attacked the subterfuge of arming American merchant ships and declared that "the Administration should proceed by democratic processes, go before Congress and put the issue before the American people whether we engage in war in Europe."

Flynn Sees Evasion

John T. Flynn, chairman of the New York Chapter of the America First Committee, charged that the government was responsible for the sinking of U.S. owned ships because of its evasion of the Neutrality Act to permit those ships to fly the Panamanian flag and travel into belligerent waters.

"These ship sinkings are the logical result of the very first evasion," Mr. Flynn declared.

Capper Warns Of War

Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said this week that if American ships were permitted to travel into the war zones it would be definitely a step toward war.

The tragically momentous question of peace or war should be submitted to Congress; should be settled by Congress. That is the constitutional way. That is the American way," he declared. "That is the proper way to decide that question."

Senator Gerald P. Nye of North Dakota attacked the action of the committee in holding hearings on the ship-arming proposal and then pushing through the proposal to send ships into the war zones as well. He characterized this action as a blow below the belt to the American people.

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Catholic Clergy Opposed To War

Final results in a survey conducted by the Catholic Laymen's Committee for Peace reveal more than 90 percent of the Catholic clergy in the United States are opposed to entry into a shooting war outside the Western Hemisphere, it was announced this week.

At the same time, 90.2 percent also expressed themselves as opposed to American aid to Soviet Russia.

A total of 13,929 clergymen responded to the survey. Of these, 12,744 voted "no" to the question, "Do you favor the United States engaging in a shooting war outside the Western Hemisphere?" There were 939 yes votes and 246 void votes.

The second question was worded, "Are you in favor of the United States aiding the Communistic Russian Government?" A total of 12,568 voted no; 1,018 voted yes; and 343 failed to vote on this question.

AFC Urges Food For People Abroad

Backs Plan To Feed Starving Europeans

Full endorsement was given this week by the National Committee of the America First Committee to former President Hoover's recent address advocating that the United States help feed the starving peoples of the blockaded countries of Europe.

At a meeting of the Committee in Chicago, the following resolution was unanimously passed:

"Be it hereby resolved that the America First Committee commends former President Herbert Hoover for his humanitarian efforts to relieve the suffering of forty million starving children in the occupied countries of Europe.

"And be it further resolved that through its chapters and members the America First Committee will do all in its power to further the adoption by the United States of the Hoover plan."

General Robert E. Wood, Chairman of the National Committee, pointed out that the resolution was in accordance with the Committee's principles, one of which states that humanitarian aid to the suffering people of England and the occupied countries is the duty of a great nation which is still at peace.

Queens Speakers Group Holds Hallowe'en Dance

The Queens Speakers Bureau of the America First Committee this week announced that it was sponsoring a Hallowe'en Dance, Friday evening, October 31, at the Tuxedo Ballroom, 59th Street and Madison Avenue, New York City.

Tickets for the dance, available at the Queens A.F.C. headquarters and other offices, have been priced at fifty-five cents.

Dr. Donovan Resigns As Bayside Unit Head

Due to the pressure of his professional duties, Dr. Herbert D. A. Donovan, educator, has resigned as chairman of the Bayside unit. At a regular meeting of the unit, the vacancy was filled by David Walsh of 201-10 36th Avenue, Bayside.

How Your Representative Voted On War Measures

Following is a list of Representatives from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut showing whether they voted for or against critical Administration measures, the first Lend-Lease bill, extension of the draft, and the change in the Neutrality Act to permit arming of ships.

Keep this list near you for reference. If your Representative voted yes for all three measures, write, wire or telegraph him today. Demand that he heed the wishes of the people and turn from the path that is leading American boys to war. If your Representative voted no, let him know you stand behind him in the fight to keep out of war. If your Representative is uncertain, prove to him by your letters and telegrams that the people stand unyielding in their opposition to war.

Only by making your voice heard where it will be most effective can the country be kept out of this ruinous foreign conflict. The halls of Congress are where this crucial issue will finally be decided.

Address your Representative at the House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

Address your Senators—James M. Mead and Robert F. Wagner of New York, William H. Smathers and W. Warren Barbour of New Jersey, Francis T. Maloney and John A. Danaher of Connecticut—at the Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

Write, wire or telephone them today. Get your friends, your relatives, your associates in business, church and social groups, to do likewise.

You alone—through your letters and your telegrams—can save America.

	Lease Lend	Draft Ext.	Ship Arming
NEW YORK			
Representatives-at-Large			
Matthew J. Merritt	(D)	Yes	No vote
Caroline O'Day	(D)	No	No vote
Cong. Dist.			
1. Leonard W. Hall	(R)	Yes	No
2. William B. Barry	(D)	No	No
3. Joseph L. Pfeifer	(D)	Yes	Yes
4. Thomas H. Cullen	(D)	Yes	Yes
5. James H. Heffernan	(D)	Yes	Yes
6. Andrew L. Somers	(D)	Yes	No vote
7. John J. Delaney	(D)	Yes	Yes
8. Donald L. O'Toole	(D)	Yes	No
9. Eugene J. Keogh	(D)	Yes	Yes
10. Emanuel Celler	(D)	Yes	No vote
11. James A. O'Leary	(D)	No	No
12. Samuel Dickstein	(D)	Yes	Yes
13. Louis J. Capozzoli	(D)	Yes	Yes
14. Arthur G. Klein	(D)	No vote	Yes
15. Michael J. Kennedy	(D)	Yes	No
16. William T. Pheiffer	(R)	No	Yes
17. Joseph C. Baldwin	(R)	Yes	Yes
18. Martin J. Kennedy	(D)	No	No
19. Sol Bloom	(D)	Yes	Yes
20. Vito Marcantonio	(AL)	No	Yes
21. Joseph A. Gavagan	(D)	Yes	Yes
22. Walter A. Lynch	(D)	Yes	Yes
23. Charles A. Buckley	(D)	Yes	Yes
24. James M. Fitzpatrick	(D)	Yes	Yes
25. Ralph A. Gamble	(R)	Yes	Yes
26. Hamilton Fish	(R)	No	Yes
27. Lewis K. Rockefeller	(R)	No	Yes
28. William Thomas Byrne	(D)	Yes	Yes
29. E. Harold Cluett	(R)	Yes	Yes
30. Frank Crowther	(R)	No	No
31. Clarence E. Kilburn	(R)	Yes	Yes
32. Francis D. Culkin	(R)	No	Yes
33. Fred J. Douglas	(R)	Yes	No vote
34. Edwin Arthur Hall	(R)	No	Yes
35. Clarence E. Hancock	(R)	Yes	Yes
36. John Taber	(R)	No	No vote
37. W. Sterling Cole	(R)	Yes	Yes
38. Joseph J. O'Brien	(R)	Yes	No
39. James W. Wadsworth	(R)	Yes	Yes
40. Walter G. Andrews	(R)	Yes	No
41. Alfred E. Beiter	(D)	Yes	Yes
42. John C. Butler	(R)	No vote	No
43. Daniel Alden Reed	(R)	No	No

NEW JERSEY

1. Charles A. Wolverton	(R)	Yes	No	Yes
2. Elmer H. Wene	(D)	Yes	Yes	Yes
3. William E. Sutphin	(D)	Yes	No vote	Yes
4. D. Lane Powers	(R)	Yes	No	Yes
5. Charles Aubrey Eaton	(R)	No	No	Yes
6. Donald H. McLean	(R)	No	No	Yes
7. J. Parnell Thomas	(R)	Yes	No vote	Yes
8. Gordon Canfield	(R)	No	No</td	